

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough consideration provided the present application. Claims 1-5 are now present in the application. Claims 1 and 3 have been amended. Claims 4 and 5 have been added. Claims 1 and 3 are independent. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 3 have been objected to because of the minor informalities. Claims 1 and 3 have been amended to address the Examiner's requested correction. Accordingly, this objection has been obviated and/or rendered moot.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sekiguchi, U.S. Patent No. 6,398,505 in view of Gold et al., U.S. Publication No. 2002/0187059 A1, Currle et al., U.S. Publication No. 2003/0115887 A1, and Chen, U.S. Patent No. 5,977,733. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In light of the foregoing amendments to the claims, Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection has been obviated and/or rendered moot. As the Examiner will note, amended independent claim 1 and 6 have been amended to recite a combination of elements including the control unit "comparing the

actual rotation speed of the first fan with the first rotation speed and comparing the actual rotation speed of the second fan with the second rotation speed" and "increasing the actual rotation speed of the second fan" "when the actual rotation speed of the first fan is lower than the first rotation speed". Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of elements as set forth in amended independent claim 1 and 3 is not disclosed nor suggested by the references relied on by the Examiner.

Sekiguchi discloses a cooling apparatus including a control portion deciding the speed of the fan according to the temperature sensors in a self-control mode and increasing the speed of at least one of the other fans when the speed of any one of the fans is lower than a prescribed threshold in a coordinative control mode. However, Sekiguchi fails to teach the above combination of the elements as set forth in amended independent claims 1 and 3. Instead, Sekiguchi teaches that the trouble-determining portion 31 compares the actual detected speed NR (detected by the speed detecting portion 15) and the threshold (obtained by referring to the trouble-determining table according to the detected temperature information SDT) to determine whether the actual speed NR is lower than the prescribed threshold (see FIG. 6 and col. 6, lines 46-67). Sekiguchi fails to teach that the control unit compares the actual speed NR of the fan with the

rotation speed when the fan is activated by the fan-driving portion 11.

With regard to the Examiner's reliance on Gold et al., Currle, et al. and Chen, these references have only been relied on for their teachings of the PWM, axial fan, radial fan, and the warning circuit. These references also fail to disclose the above combination of the elements as set forth in amended independent claims 1 and 3. Accordingly, these references fail to cure the deficiencies of Sekiguchi.

Accordingly, none of those references individually or in combination teach or suggest the limitations of independent claims 1 and 3. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims 1-5 clearly define over the teachings of the references relied on by the Examiner.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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